GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:598
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2016
Increase in Haj Quota
Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal;Joshi Shri Chandra Prakash;Kachhadia Shri Naranbhai;Rao (Avnthi) Shri Muthamsetti Srinivasa

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Haj pilgrims who undertook the Haj pilgrimage and the number of applications received during the last three years, State-wise;
(b) whether some of the State Governments have requested for increase in Haj quota in view of the increasing number of Haj pilgrims;
(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be done; and
(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) The details of the number of Haj pilgrims who proceeded for Haj through Haj Committee of India (HCoI) and number of applications received by the HCoI during the last three years, State-wise, is placed at Annexure.

(b) to (d) A number of requests have been received from various States and Union Territories for increasing Haj quota for Haj-2016. However, the entire quota allocated to HCoI by the Government of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for Haj-2016 has already been distributed amongst the States and Union Territories on the basis of their respective Muslim population, based on the 2011 census figures.

From Haj-2013, Government of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has reduced the overall Haj quota for pilgrims from foreign countries, including from India, by 20% and for domestic pilgrims by 50% to facilitate the infra-structure work being carried out around the "Haram Sharif". The Government of India has been requesting the Government of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for increasing the annual Haj quota for India. However, the Annual Haj quota for India has remained unchanged since Haj-2013.